

MARVEL
1.com

THE



OTHER

EVOLVE
OR DIE

PART 1 OF 12

Friendly Neighborhood **SPIDER-MAN** #1

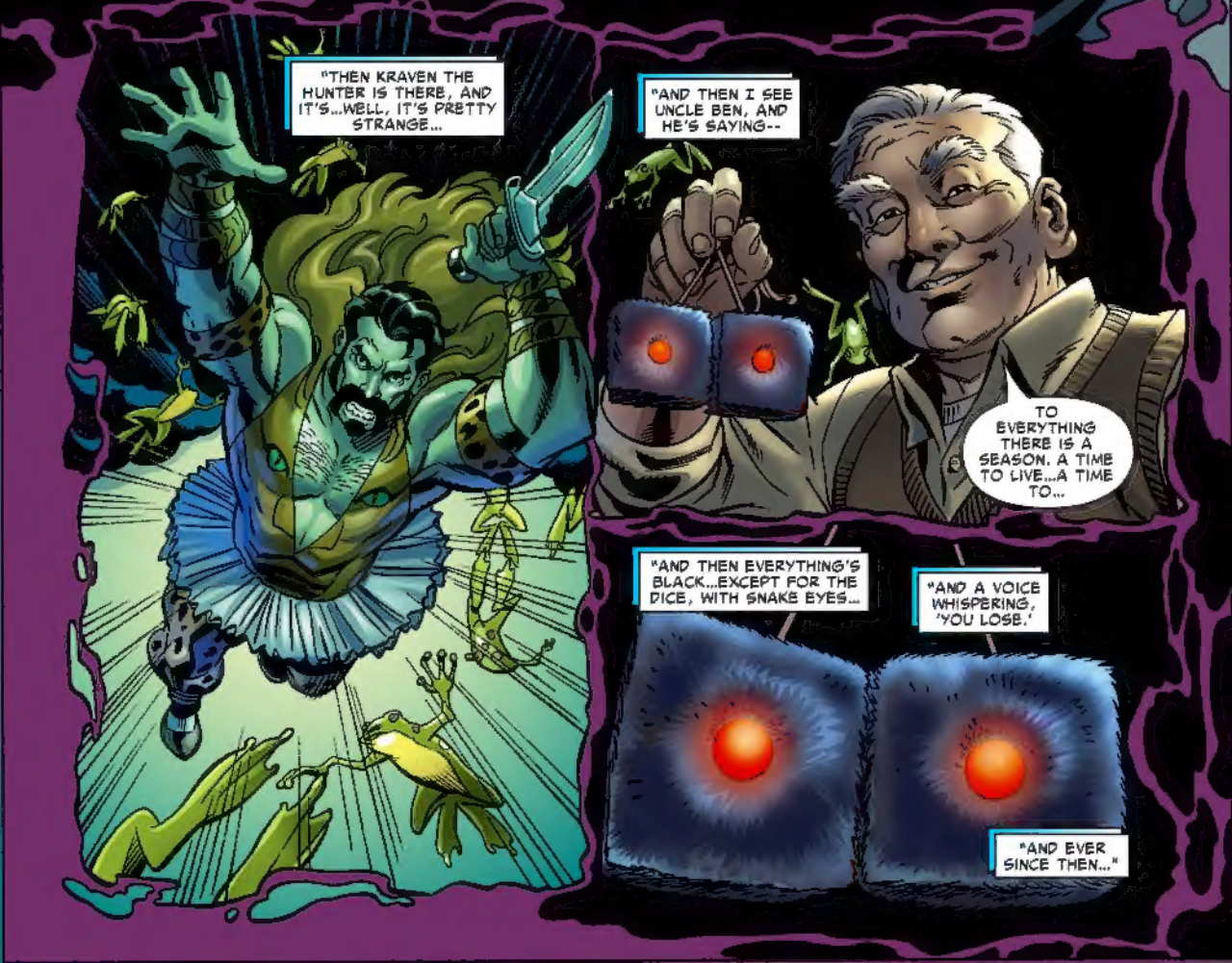




"SO I HAD THIS WEIRD DREAM, M.J.
IT STARTED WITH MORLUN...THAT
LUNATIC WHO WANTED TO 'EAT' MY
SPIDER-POWERS, REMEMBER?"

"AND HE'S ROLLING A
BODY INTO A MORGUE.

"AND I'M AFRAID IT'S ME...
EXCEPT IF I'M DEAD AND
INSIDE THE BAG, I COULDN'T
BE SEEING IT, RIGHT?"



"THEN KRAVEN THE
HUNTER IS THERE, AND
IT'S...WELL, IT'S PRETTY
STRANGE..."

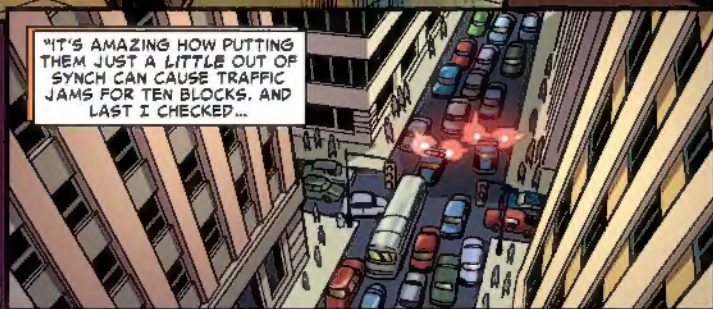
"AND THEN I SEE
UNCLE BEN, AND
HE'S SAYING--

TO
EVERYTHING
THERE IS A
SEASON. A TIME
TO LIVE...A TIME
TO...

"AND THEN EVERYTHING'S
BLACK...EXCEPT FOR THE
DICE, WITH SNAKE EYES..."

"AND A VOICE
WHISPERING,
'YOU LOSE.'"

"AND EVER
SINCE THEN..."





"AH."



ALL
RIGHT. NOT
UNEXPECTED.



I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK.
MEANTIME...

...WHICHEVER
BAG YOU SLIPPED A
BLUE DYE CANISTER
INTO...**REMOVE**
IT.

I...
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE--



SWEETHEART, IF I OPEN
MY LOOT AND SOMETHING
EXPLOSIVE AND BLUE
GOES OFF IN MY
FACE...

...I WILL FIND
YOU AND PUT A
BULLET IN YOUR
BRAIN...

...BY
HAND.

SO PICK YOUR
POISON.



OH, WOW!
A NEW BAD
GUY!

I
CAN TELL,
Y'KNOW...

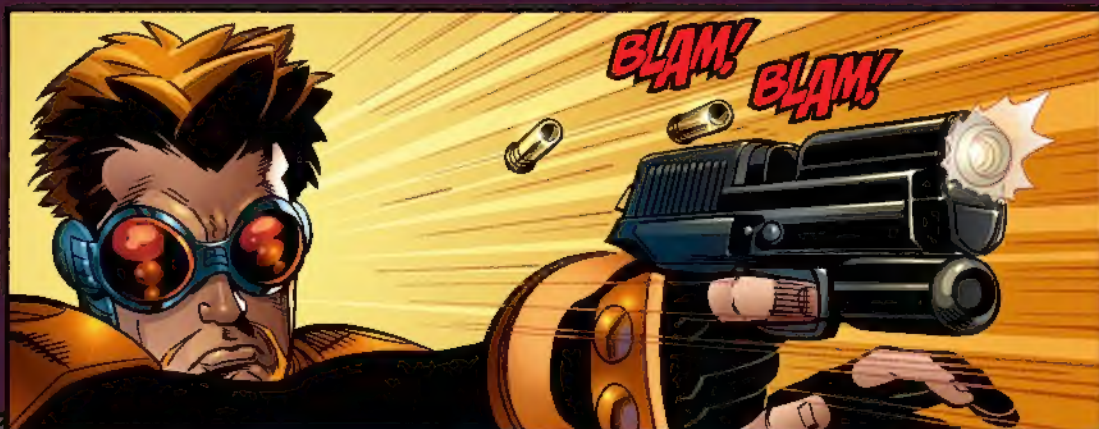


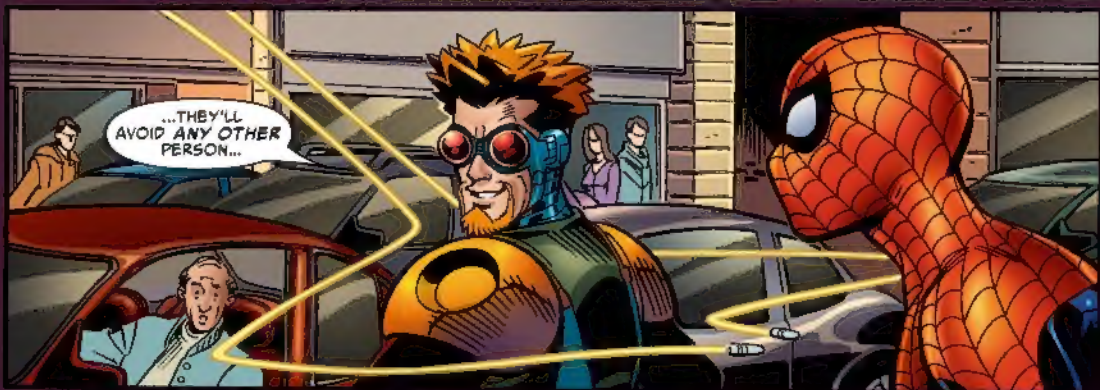
SPIDER-MAN: THE OTHER - EVOLVE OR DIE PART ONE

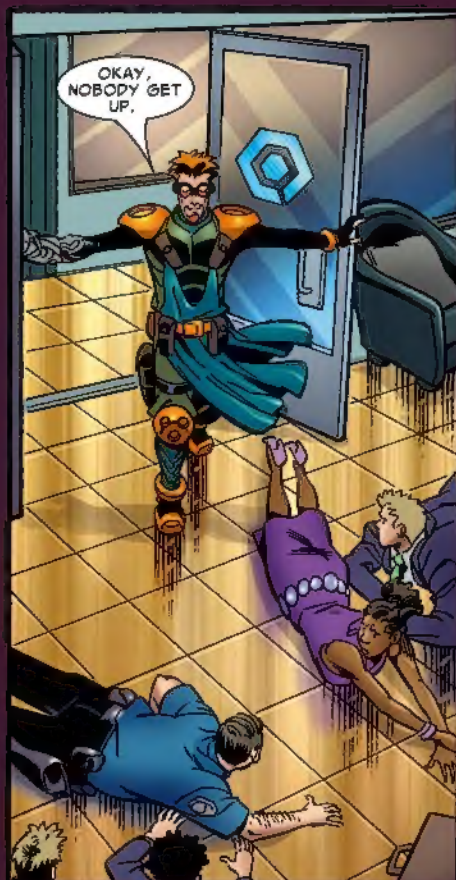
SHOCK

PETER DAVID WRITER	MIKE WIERINGO PENCILER	KARL KESEL INKER	PAUL MOUNTS COLORS	VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER	MOLLY LAZER & AUBREY SITTERSON ASSISTANT EDITORS	ANDY SCHMIDT ASSOCIATE EDITOR	TOM BREVOORT EDITOR	AXEL ALONSO CONSULTING EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
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THE OTHER LOGOTYPE AND DESIGN BY RIAN HUGHES









"LOOK...STEVE...I APPRECIATE YOU OFFERING TO HELP, Y'KNOW, TEACH ME TO BE A BETTER...I DUNNO, WHATEVER I AM..."

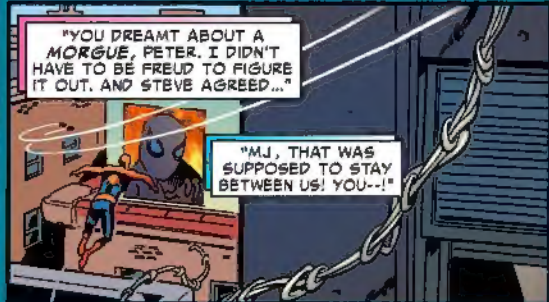
"OFFERING? PETER, MARY JANE HERE ASKED ME TO."



"SHE WHAT? MJ, YOU--?"

"WELL, HONEY, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS WORRIED ABOUT DYING..."

"DYING?! WHO SAID DYING?"



"YOU DREAMT ABOUT A MORGUE, PETER. I DIDN'T HAVE TO BE FREUD TO FIGURE IT OUT. AND STEVE AGREED..."

"MJ, THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO STAY BETWEEN US! YOU--!"



"PETER, HONEY...ARE YOU GONNA TELL ME I CAN'T CONFIDE IN CAPTAIN AMERICA?"

"OKAY...POINT TAKEN, I GUESS HE'S TRUSTWORTHY..."



"YOU GUESS...?!"

"OKAY, OKAY! NO PROBLEM! NOW LEGGO MY EAR, MJ!"

I'LL TRY TO LIVE UP TO YOUR CONFIDENCE. NOW... FOLLOW MY MOVEMENTS. MOVE SLOWLY, PLAYING YOUR MUSCLES AGAINST EACH OTHER.

AND WORK ON FOCUSING.



WHAT AM I FOCUSING, EXACTLY?

MY "CHEE?"
YES.
YOUR CHI.

WELL...NO PROBLEM THERE. I'M A CHI WIZ. GET IT? A...

Y'KNOW, I'M WAY FUNNIER WHEN I'M WEARING THE MASK.

CAN I, MAYBE, GO PUT IT ON?

NO!



OKAY.

YOU'RE A TEACHER, PETER. WHY ARE YOU NERVOUS ABOUT LEARNING?

THEN WHAT EXACTLY?

I'M NOT... EXACTLY.



IT'S JUST... I'VE ALWAYS OPERATED ON INSTINCT. AND I'M WORRIED YOU MIGHT TELL ME SOMETHING LIKE...

INSTINCT CAN KILL YOU.

RIGHT! LIKE THAT, FOR INSTANCE.

THAT'S NOT A "FOR INSTANCE." IT CAN KILL YOU.

OH YEAH, THIS'LL HELP ME SLEEP BETTER.



IN 1977, TWO
747s--A PAN AM AND A
KLM FLIGHT--COLLIDED ON A
RUNWAY IN THE CANARY ISLANDS
EVERYONE ON THE KLM PLANE
WAS KILLED INSTANTLY. ONLY
SIXTY OUT OF NEARLY 400
ON THE PAN AM PLANE
SURVIVED.

THE THING
IS...MANY MORE
COULD HAVE ESCAPED
DEATH ON THE PAN
AM FLIGHT.

BUT THEIR
MINDS COULDN'T
PROCESS WHAT
WAS HAPPENING,
SO THEIR INSTINCTS
KEPT THEM IN
THEIR SEATS,
WAITING FOR
GUIDANCE.

THEN THERE'S SCUBA
DIVERS WHO DROWN
WITH OXYGEN STILL IN
THEIR TANKS.

SOMETHING
OBSTRUCTS THEIR
BREATHING PASSAGES.
INSTINCT COMPELS THEM
TO PULL OFF THEIR MASKS
IN ORDER TO CLEAR THE
OBSTRUCTION...

...AND
THEY DIE.

STEVE, IF I
CAN'T RELY ON MY
INSTINCTS...I'VE GOT
NOTHING. AND THAT'S,
FRANKLY, KINDA
SCARY.

I
UNDERSTAND,
BUT THAT SHOULDN'T
DETER YOU FROM
LOOKING BEYOND
IT.

IF YOU WANT
TO SURVIVE TO
A R E P E OLD AGE,
YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU NEED?

AN ICE CUBE
TO BE FROZEN
ALIVE IN?

DROLL.
VERY DROLL.

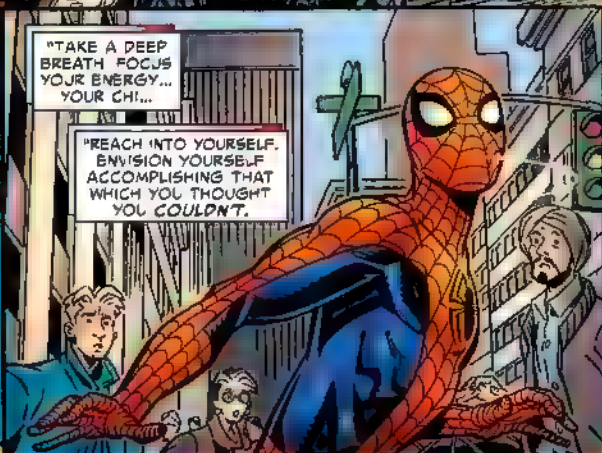
PETER...ALL
I'M SAYING IS THAT
ONE CONSIDERED,
CALCULATED MOVE CAN
BE BETTER THAN TWENTY
REACTIVE MOVES, NO
MATTER HOW WELL
EXECUTED THEY
ARE.

AND
THAT REQUIRES
FOCUS.



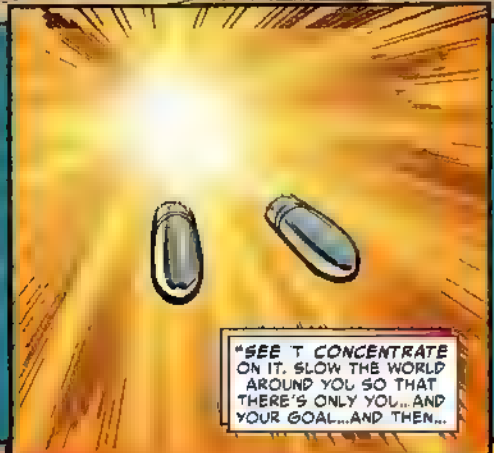
"YOUR SPEED,
YOUR STRENGTH...
IT'S AMAZING
SPECTACULAR

"BUT
SOMETIMES
YOU NEED
TO STOP.



"TAKE A DEEP
BREATH. FOCUS
YOUR ENERGY...
YOUR CHI..."

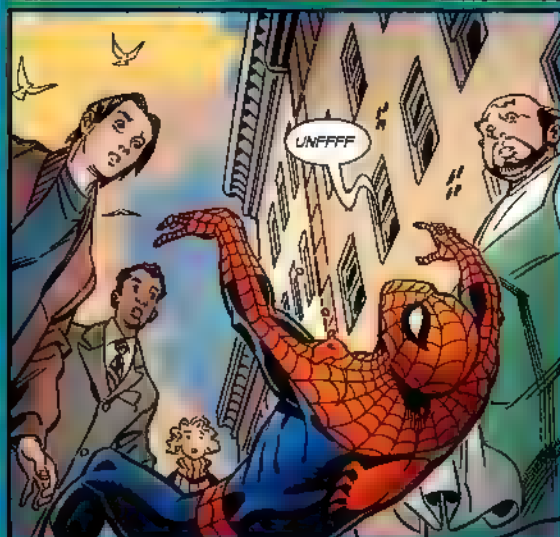
"REACH INTO YOURSELF.
ENVISION YOURSELF
ACCOMPLISHING THAT
WHICH YOU THOUGHT
YOU COULDN'T.



"SEE T CONCENTRATE
ON IT. SLOW THE WORLD
AROUND YOU SO THAT
THERE'S ONLY YOU...AND
YOUR GOAL...AND THEN...

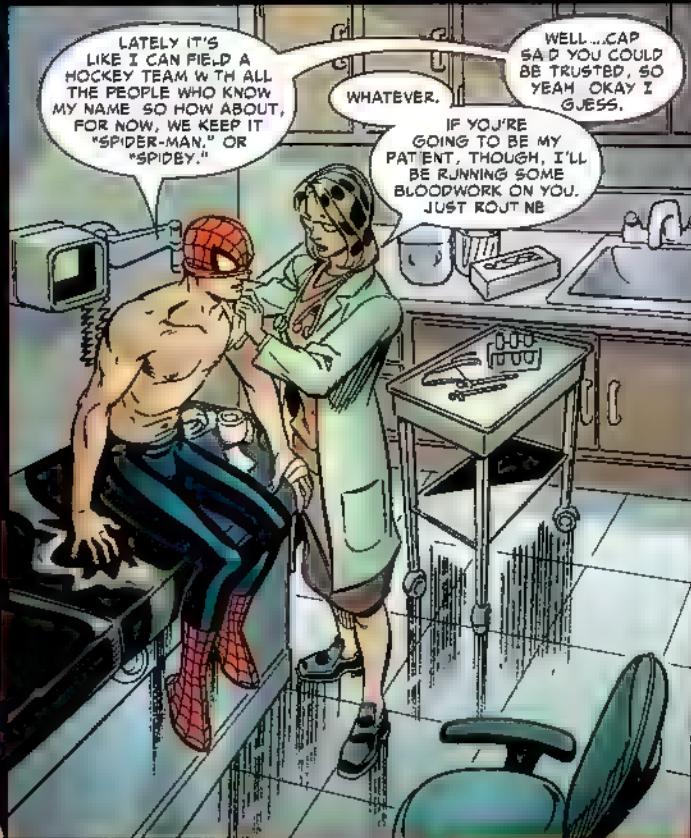
"...DO IT!"







SO, SHALL I CALL YOU SPIDER-MAN? MR. MAN? OR YOU CAN TELL ME YOUR FIRST NAME IF YOU WSH.

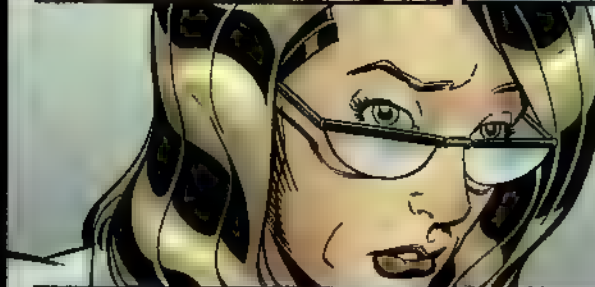


LATELY IT'S LIKE I CAN FIELD A HOCKEY TEAM WITH ALL THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW MY NAME SO HOW ABOUT, FOR NOW, WE KEEP IT "SPIDER-MAN," OR "SPIDBY."

WHATEVER.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY PATIENT, THOUGH, I'LL BE RUNNING SOME BLOODWORK ON YOU. JUST ROUT ME

WELL...CAP SAID YOU COULD BE TRUSTED, SO YEAH. OKAY I GUESS.



THANKS FOR THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

YOU WANT TO GO INTO MY OFFICE, CHECK MY DIPLOMAS?

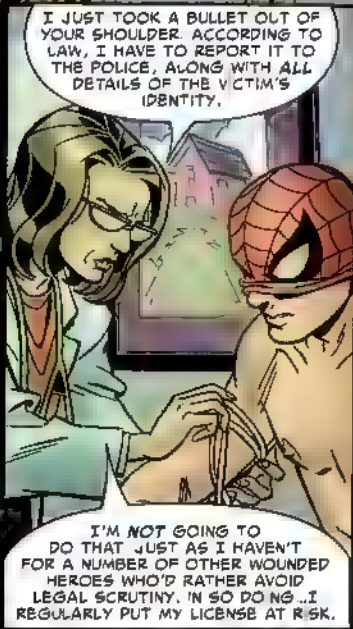
NO...THAT'S NOT NECESSARY, DOCTOR CASTILLO...



YOU SHOULD. THEY'RE EDIBLE. MADE OUT OF MATZOH.

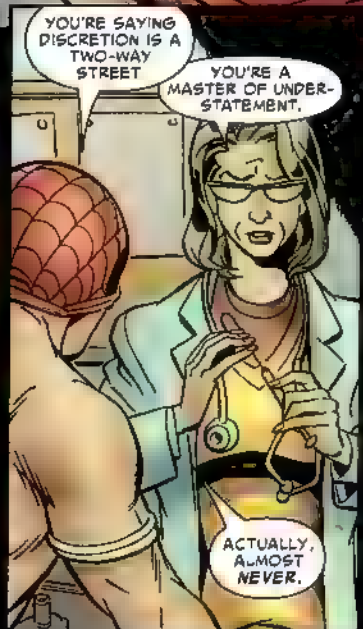
OKAY, I GET IT.

I DON'T THINK YOU DO.



I JUST TOOK A BULLET OUT OF MY SHOULDER. ACCORDING TO LAW, I HAVE TO REPORT IT TO THE POLICE, ALONG WITH ALL DETAILS OF THE VICTIM'S IDENTITY.

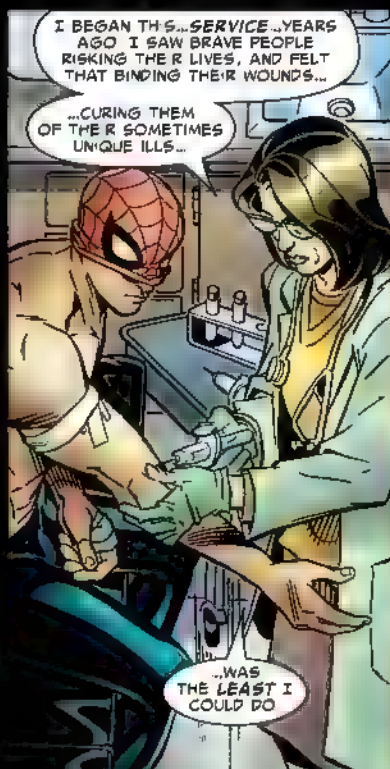
I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT JUST AS I HAVEN'T FOR A NUMBER OF OTHER WOUNDED HEROES WHO'D RATHER AVOID LEGAL SCRUTINY. IN SO DOING...I REGULARLY PUT MY LICENSE AT RISK.



YOU'RE SAYING DISCRETION IS A TWO-WAY STREET

YOU'RE A MASTER OF UNDER-STATEMENT.

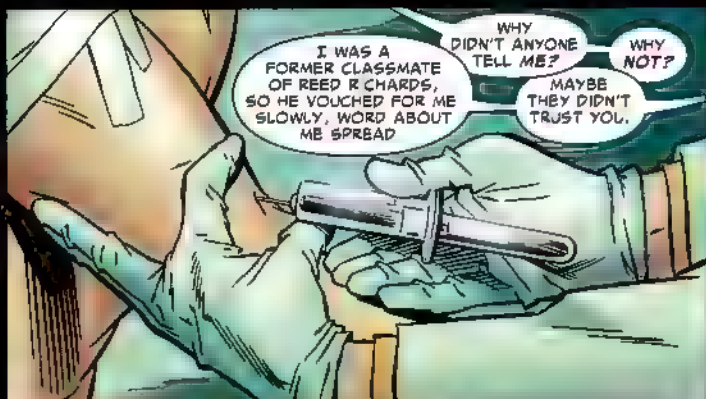
ACTUALLY, ALMOST NEVER.



I BEGAN THIS...SERVICE...YEARS AGO I SAW BRAVE PEOPLE RISKING THEIR LIVES, AND FELT THAT BINDING THEIR WOUNDS...

...CURING THEM OF THE SOMETIMES UNIQUE ILLS...

...WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO



I WAS A FORMER CLASSMATE OF REED RICHARDS, SO HE VOUCHERED FOR ME SLOWLY, WORD ABOUT ME SPREAD

WHY DIDN'T ANYONE TELL ME?

WHY NOT?

MAYBE THEY DIDN'T TRUST YOU.



PROBABLY BECAUSE THEIR INITIAL IMPULSE IS TO HIT YOU WITH A ROLLED UP NEWSPAPER.

THEY CAN'T SEE ANY PART OF YOUR FACE, YOU KEEP TO YOURSELF, AND YOU DRESS LIKE SOMETHING ICKY.

YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST GUY PEOPLE ARE GONNA INVITE TO A BOX SOCIAL, Y'KNOW?



POINT TAKEN, DOC.

I'LL CALL YOU WITH THE RESULTS OKAY, SPIDER-MAN?



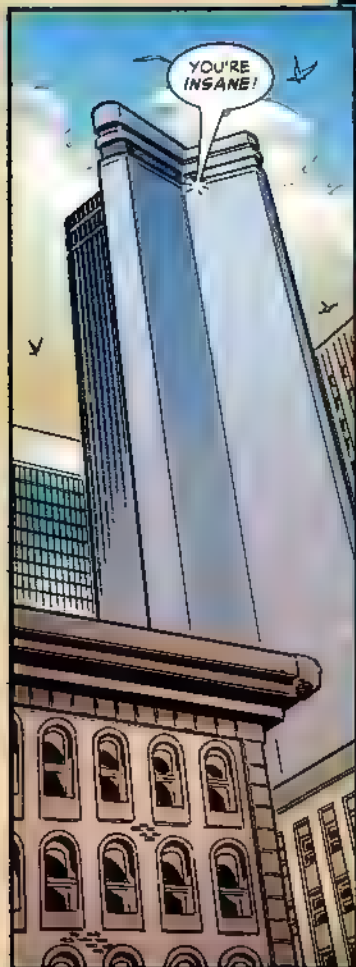
PETER.
MY NAME'S PETER.



FUNNY. YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A "PETER."

YEAH, I HEAR THAT A LOT.

YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE I HEAR A LOT?



YOU'RE INSANE!

LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE WOUNDED!

C'MON MJ. YOU KNOW I GET BETTER FAST.

YEAH? WHAT IF YOU DIE? WHAT'RE THE ODDS OF YOU GETTING BETTER THEN?

SERIOUSLY? SURPRISINGLY GOOD



PETER, WILL YOU LISTEN TO ME...

MJ, I'VE GOT TO DO THIS!

WHY?



BECAUSE I'M SCARED, OKAY?

I CAN...FEEL IT. FEAR, BURNING IN MY STOMACH LIKE FOOD POISONING.

AND I DON'T KNOW WHY. ALL I KNOW IS... F I DON'T GET OUT THERE...NOW...

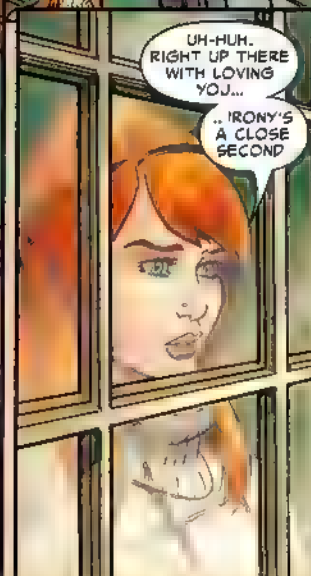
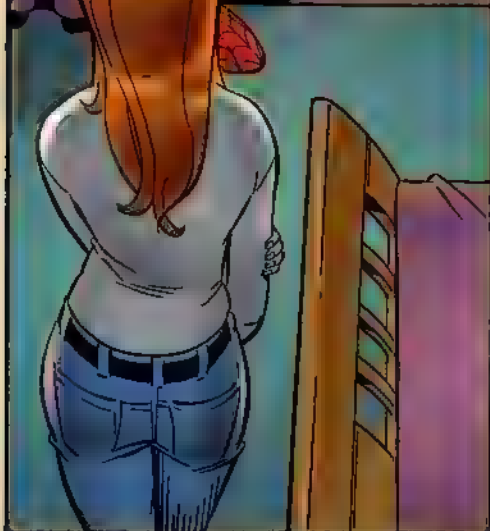
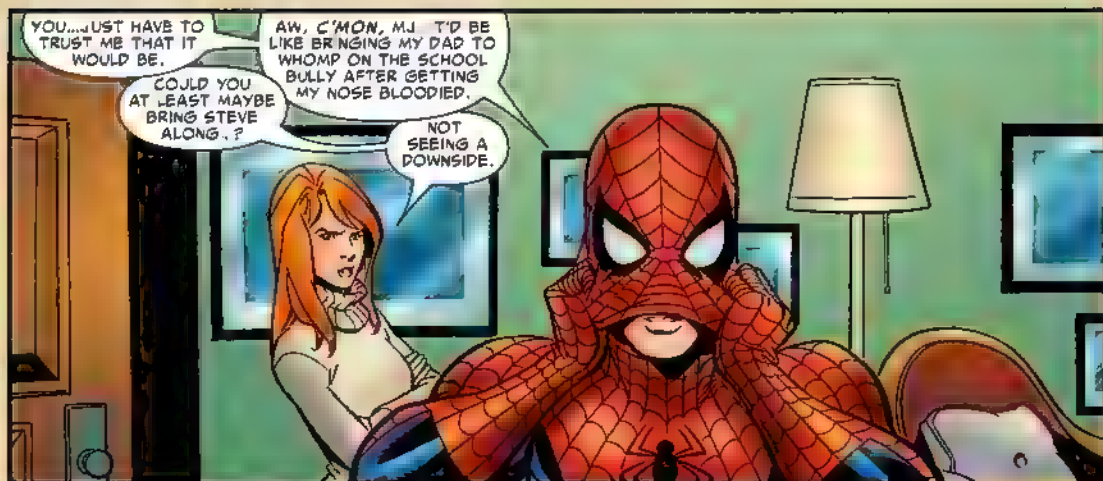
...I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO KEEP DOING THIS AT ALL.



AND THAT'S A BAD THING... HOW?



..





C'MON, C'MON, WHERE ARE YOU?
BEEN AN HOUR NOW. SHOULDERS BURNING LIKE A SON OF A--



AM.
BINGO.
MOVING FAST CROSS-TOWN.

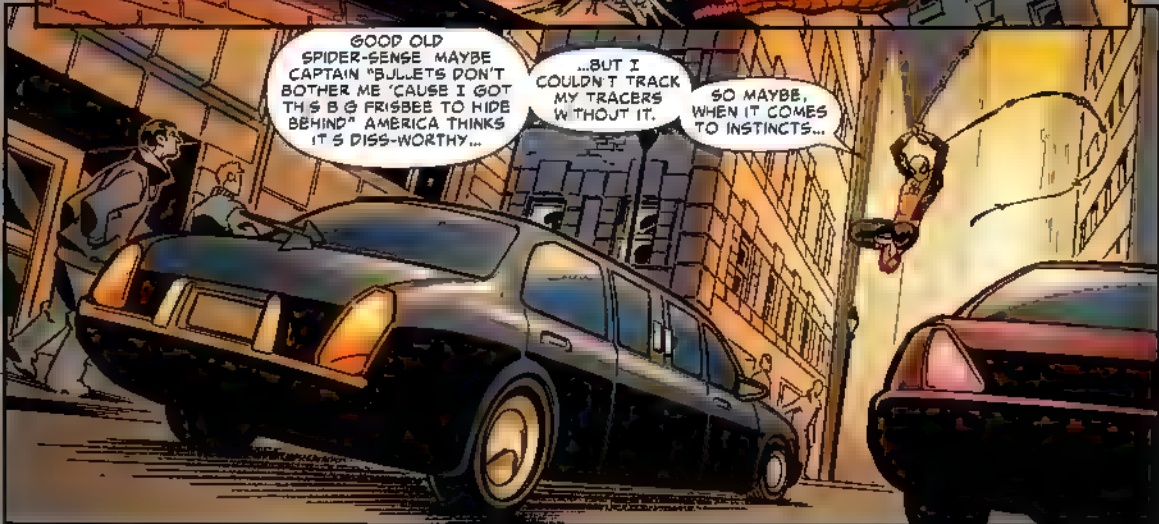


HELLOOOOO, NURSE.
HE MUST BE IN THAT LIMO.

HOW SWEET...
MAYBE HE BOUGHT IT WITH THE MONEY HE STOLE



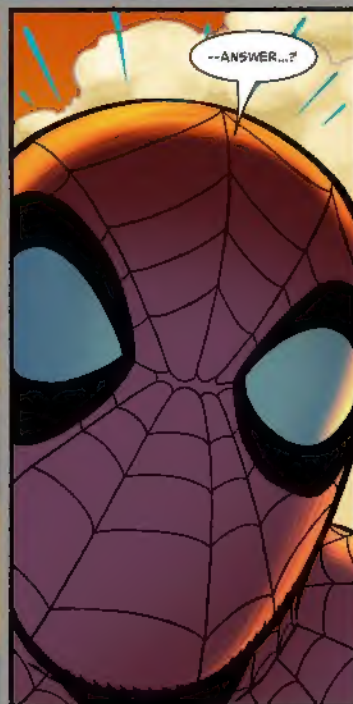
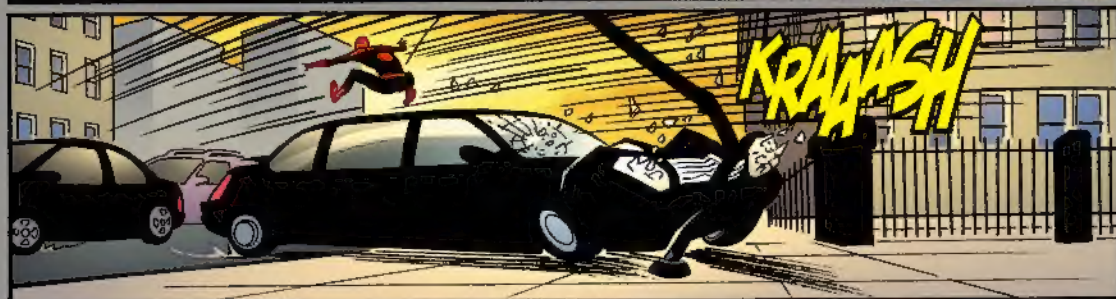
SURE HOPE HE KEPT A RECEIPT.
GOTTA MOVE FAST, BEFORE WE GET OUT OF CAMERA RANGE



GOOD OLD SPIDER-SENSE MAYBE CAPTAIN "BULLETS DON'T BOTHER ME 'CAUSE I GOT TH'S B & FRISBEE TO HIDE BEHIND" AMERICA THINKS IT'S DISS-WORTHY...

...BUT I COULDN'T TRACK MY TRACERS WITHOUT IT.

SO MAYBE, WHEN IT COMES TO INSTINCTS...





YOU CAN
READ MY ANSWER
IN TOMORROW'S
"BUGLE."



WELL, THIS
IS JUST BAD
ON SO MANY
LEVELS...



THE INITIAL TESTS...
THEY INDICATED SOME
THINGS THAT...

WHAT...
KIND OF
THINGS?

I'D RATHER
NOT SAY
AT THIS--



TO BE CONTINUED...
IN MARVEL KNIGHTS
SPIDER-MAN #19